

# APG News

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## Post Shorts

### Recycling schedule



The residential and recycling pickup schedule for March 8 is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags, and place them on the curb.

### Towson University hosts open house for war veterans tomorrow

Towson University is holding an open house/college fair for men and women leaving the service who served in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, 3 to 6 p.m., March 3, at the University Union, Susquehanna Terrace (3rd floor).

Operation Service to Scholarship is designed specifically for those war veterans who "could use some guidance" as far as educational opportunities are concerned, according to Tracy Miller, TU academic advisor.

Participating institutions will include the University of Maryland Baltimore Campus, Villa Julie College, Coppin State University, Baltimore City Community College, Community College of Baltimore County, Baltimore International College (School of Culinary Arts, Business and Management); TESST College of Technology and others.

Admission to the open house is free. Parking is available in the Union Garage or Lot 11. Both are adjacent to the University Union which is located off Osler Drive on the TU campus.

For more information, contact Miller, 410-704-3583.

### Spouse's club holds Women's Conference

The APG Military and Civilian Spouses' Club will host the Third Annual Women's Conference March 11 at the Gunpowder Club in the Edgewood Area, designed to uplift, enlighten, motivate and strengthen women in their various roles as women, mothers, wives and invaluable contributors to their workplace and local communities.

The conference is open to all women and is not limited to those in the military community. Membership in the APG Military and Civilian Spouses' Club (MCSC) or Military ID is not required.

The \$15 fee is non-refundable and covers

*See SHORTS, page 7*

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

### Page 2

APG organizations visit area schools

### Page 3

Band mentors students

### Page 8

MWR

### Page 12

Health & Safety

### Page 13

Rollover Simulator saves lives

## Cell phone use restricted on installation

Story by  
**RON KRAVITZ**  
DSHE

Distracted driving accounts for so many accidents that the Department of Defense has issued a new instruction under DoD 635.25(3).

Vehicle operators on a DoD installation and operators of government owned vehicles shall not use cell phones unless the vehicle is safely parked or unless they are using a hands-free device, states the directive.

Effective immediately, the cell phone use on Aberdeen Proving Ground will comply with the directive, said Col. John T. Wright, Garrison and deputy installation commander.

"The only exceptions will be for security and emergency personnel in the performance of their duties," Wright said.

Distracted driving is a factor in 25 percent of all traffic crashes, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

With hectic schedules and roadway delays, many people multi-task just to keep up with personal and work-related responsibilities. One of the

biggest distractors is the cellular phone.

The NHTSA says that using a cell phone while driving increases the chance of getting into a crash by 400 percent.

When dialing a phone number or engaging in intense conversation, the driver is not watching the road as attentively.

A "hands-free" apparatus is helpful, but it can't prevent the driver from becoming involved in a conversation and losing concentration. The best defense is to pull off the road and stop in a safe place before using the phone.

New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and the District of Columbia have banned the use of cell phones entirely while driving.

If a 20-year-old driver is behind the wheel with a cell phone, their reaction times are the same as a 70-year-old driver. This is the result of a study by David Strayer, a University of Utah psychology professor.

And, it doesn't matter whether the phone is handheld or hands free, he said. Any activity requiring a driver to "actively be part of a conversation" will likely impair

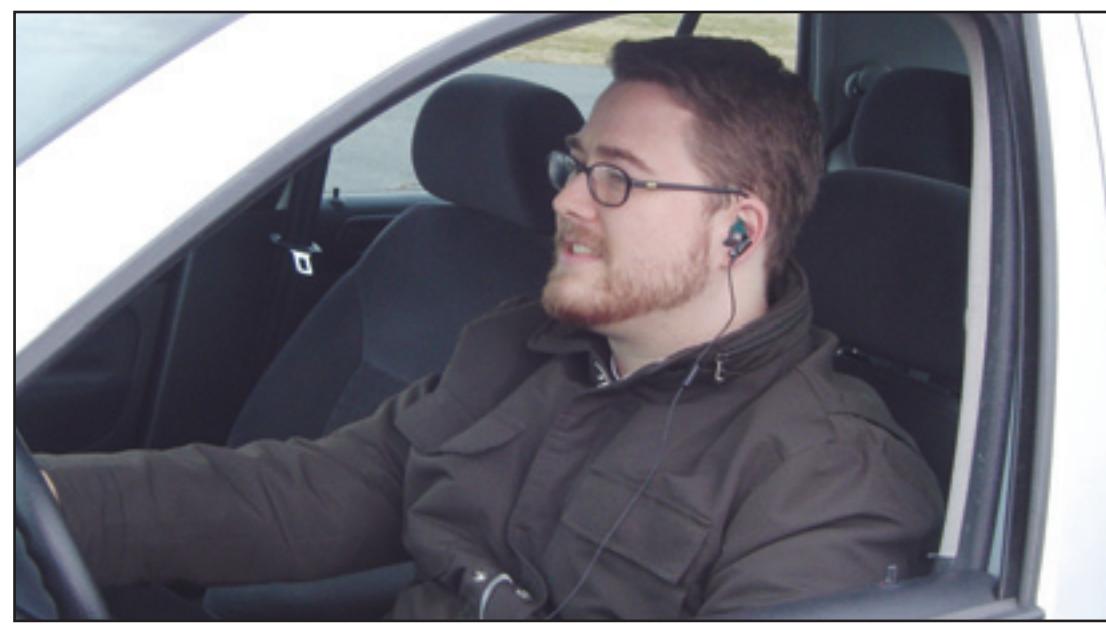


Photo by REBECCA CHISHOLM

*Nick Penitz, APG News designer, uses a hands-free headset while driving on the installation. Effective immediate use of a cell phone without one is prohibited.*

driving abilities.

Motorists who talk on cell phones are more impaired than drunken drivers with blood-alcohol levels exceeding 0.08, according to Strayer and colleague Frank Drews, an assistant professor of psychology. This was found during research conducted in 2003. Their study appeared in last winter's issue of "Human Factors," the quarterly journal of the Human Factors and

Ergonomics Society.

If drivers must talk while driving, the safest way is to have a hands-free device so conversing can be done with two hands on the wheel.

"Drivers should remember to stay aware of what is going on around them," Wright said. "It's easy to get so engrossed in conversation that exits, stop signs and lights are missed or other drivers are not being monitored."

The best thing to do if a driver has to make a call is to wait until arriving at a destination or pull over to the side of the road, if it's going to be a long conversation.

Because of the congested highways, drivers spend more and more time on the road. And, since drivers make more than 200 decisions during every mile traveled, it is critical to devote more attention to driving.

## 2006 AER campaign begins

Story by  
**MARGE FISSEL**  
AER

Army Emergency Relief is a private, nonprofit organization incorporated in 1942 by the Secretary of War and the Army Chief of Staff. AER's mission is to provide emergency financial assistance to Soldiers. This year marks 64 years of AER operations.

AER is governed by the AER Board of Managers and receives no funds from the federal government. AER is supported by voluntary contributions from Soldiers (active and retired) solicited

once a year during the Army's annual fund campaign for AER.

The annual fund raising campaign for AER began yesterday and will continue through May 15. Contributions may be by allotment, cash or check.

In 2005 AER assisted 49,000 Army people with more than \$34 million worldwide. Contributions will assure continued availability of AER funds to meet the assistance needs of your fellow soldiers.

The 2006 AER Campaign coordinator is Maj. Jeffrey Winston, 410-278-3000.



*Sgt. John Lindsay performs with the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) Show Band in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Spc. Rodolfo Furtado is on bass with Spc. Joseph Krafft on guitar and Staff Sgt. Julio De La Rosa on drums.*

## Show band returns from overseas tour

Story by  
**REBECCA CHISHOLM**  
APG News

and were back in the states Jan. 11.

The show band played modern and older songs, ranging from pop to country, covering such acts as Maroon 5, Bowling for Soup, Drowning Pool, Keith Urban, Tim McGraw and Gretchen Wilson.

Sgt. Steve Lah, lead vocalist and master of ceremonies for the show band, said that the two and a half month experience was great. It was his first time overseas during his 21 years in the Army.

Lah said he was impressed by the helpfulness of the Soldiers and officers in Iraq, who were always willing to aid the band with equipment and such.

He also enjoyed visiting the American Embassy in Kuwait, where it was "nice to be on American soil again."

The varying climates and topography of the region also impressed Lah. He said that Kuwait was all dirt, though

very nice country, even if it didn't always smell that great. He commented on the mountains in Afghanistan and the head in Quatar and Saudi Arabia.

"It was the experience of a life time," he said. "I'm glad I went and would gladly go again."

Spc. Jessica Lear, a trombone player and singer with the show band, said that she most noticed the differences in the way women were treated overseas.

"I was worried about going," she said. "You hear so much about women being raped and hurt."

But, she said, the buddy system employed by the band to keep each member safe, and to watch over the two female band members, was very useful. And, the situations she had imagined, of violence and danger, were never seen. No one was forceful or inappropriate.

She said that going to a

*See BAND, page 11*

## New chapter begins for 22d Chemical Battalion



*Maj. Ronald E. Mussone, left, Company C, 22d Chemical Battalion (Tech Escort), commander, exchanges Company C's guidon with 1st Sgt. Richard Davidson, Company C, U.S. Army 22d Chemical Battalion (TE) Jan. 4 marking a new chapter for the 22d Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort) and the 20th Support Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosives). Lt. Col. Patrick Terrell, 22d Chemical Battalion (TE), commander uncased the guidon of Company C, 22d Chemical Battalion (TE) and Maj. Ronald E. Mussone assumed command. In a ceremony on Dec. 15, 2005, Terrell cased the Company C guidon at Dugway Proving Ground, Utah, as part of an overarching plan that moves these personnel to Fort Lewis, Wa., to join the 110th Chemical Battalion (TE) which activated in September 2005.*

## Developer for APG office, research center announced

Story by  
**CHRISTOPHER AUGSBURGER**  
Baltimore CoE

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District and Aberdeen Proving Ground selected real estate developer APG Development Partners on Feb. 17 to transform approximately 1,300 acres in the Edgewood Area of APG into a state-of-the-art, anti-terrorism and law enforcement training center under the Army's Enhanced Use Leasing, or EUL, program.

The project concept features a variety of facilities for realistic, secure, live-fire, multimodal training supported by the necessary student lodging, dining, fitness and recreational

amenities.

APG Development Partners, together with the U.S. Army and Aberdeen Proving Ground, will develop a business and leasing plan for the development and leasing of the property. The new development project will involve a long-term government lease of the land and improvements. APG Development Partners will plan, design, finance, construct and market the new facilities.

In addition to providing the Army with fair consideration, APG Development Partners will operate and maintain the facilities.

Additional information is available at

<http://eul.army.mil/APG/>.